Removal of curb on export of agricultural products

4975. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have lifted curbs on export of agricultural products; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. *Vide* the Directorate General of Foreign Trade, notification No. 49 (RE 2001) 1997—2002 dated 5-3-2002, quantitative restrictions on exports of wheat, wheat products, coarse grains and butter, registration requirement for exports of non-basmati rice and packaging restrictions on exports of pulses have been dispensed with.

Further in the EXIM Policy, restrictions on export of groundnut oil, 10 varieties of agricultural seeds and export of cashew to Russia under Escrow A/c/ Rupee-Repayment have been removed. Restrictions of registration of export contracts for wheat and wheat products, coarse grains, butter and export of cashew to Russia under Escrow A/c/Rupee-Repayment have also been dispensed with.

Transport subsidies to NE States

4976. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the special subsidies and incentives being granted to the NE States including Transport Subsidies indicating Central Co-ordinating Agency, State-wise annual claim, actual disbursement, disbursing agency, during the last 3 years; and

(b) the date of introduction and proposed date of termination of above mentioned schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) and (b) Government have announced a New Industrial Policy and other Concessions for the North Eastern Region, which includes Schemes like (i) Transport Subsidy (ii) Growth Centre (iii) Capital Investment Subsidy (iv) Central Interest Subsidy (v) Comprehensive Insurance Scheme. The Industrial Policy for the Region aims at to attract investors *inter-alia* contained three strategies namely; Income tax and Excise Duty concession, Schemes for Development of infrastructure and subsidies to the units established on or after announcement of the Policy. Following are the